



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5871

January Session, 2015



**AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE
FOR CURRENT AND FORMER UNIFORMED MEMBERS OF PAID
MUNICIPAL OR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 31-294j of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

3 (a) For the purpose of adjudication of claims for payment of benefits
4 under the provisions of this chapter, a uniformed member of a paid
5 municipal or volunteer fire department, a regular member of a paid
6 municipal police department, a constable, as defined in section 31-294i,
7 or a member of a volunteer ambulance service shall be eligible for such
8 benefits for any disease arising out of and in the course of
9 employment, including, but not limited to, hepatitis, meningococcal
10 meningitis [,] or tuberculosis, [Kahler's Disease, non-Hodgkin's
11 lymphoma, and prostate or testicular cancer] that results in death or
12 temporary or permanent total or partial disability.

13 (b) (1) Notwithstanding any provisions of the general statutes, for
14 the purpose of adjudication of claims for payment of benefits under
15 the provisions of this chapter, a uniformed member of a paid
16 municipal or volunteer fire department shall be eligible for such
17 benefits for the following types of cancers arising out of and in the
18 course of employment: Kahler's Disease, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, or

19 any condition of cancer affecting the brain, skin, skeletal system,
 20 digestive system, endocrine system, respiratory system, lymphatic
 21 system, reproductive system, urinary system or hematological system
 22 that results in death or temporary or permanent total or partial
 23 disability. Such cancer shall be presumed to have been suffered in the
 24 line of duty as a result of the inhalation, absorption or ingestion of
 25 noxious fumes or poisonous gases, unless the contrary be shown by a
 26 preponderance of the evidence, provided (A) such uniformed member
 27 successfully passed a physical examination upon entry into such
 28 service, or subsequent to entry, as the case may be, that failed to reveal
 29 any evidence of such cancer, (B) such uniformed member has worked
 30 for not less than five years at a municipal or volunteer fire department
 31 at the time such cancer is discovered, or should have been discovered,
 32 and (C) such cancer is one that is known to result from exposure to
 33 heat, radiation or a known or suspected carcinogen as determined by
 34 the International Agency for Research on Cancer or the National
 35 Toxicology Program of the United States Department of Health and
 36 Human Services.

37 (2) Any individual who is no longer actively serving as a uniformed
 38 member of a paid municipal or volunteer fire department but who
 39 otherwise would be eligible for such benefits pursuant to the
 40 provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, may apply for such
 41 benefits not more than five years from the date such individual last
 42 served with such paid municipal or volunteer fire department.

43 (3) Any uniformed member of a paid municipal or volunteer fire
 44 department or individual applying for benefits pursuant to
 45 subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection may be required to submit to
 46 annual physical examinations as a condition of receiving such benefits.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2015	31-294j
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LAB *Joint Favorable Subst.*

APP *Joint Favorable*